



71ST Assembly District

ASSEMBLYMEMBER

AL TAYLOR

REPORTS TO THE PEOPLE

Community Board 12
December 2018

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THIS MONTH IN THE DISTRICT

Public Hearing on Election Day Operations and Voter Disenfranchisement

On November 15, 2018, Assemblymember Taylor sat on the New York State Assembly Subcommittee on Election Day Operations and Voter Disenfranchisement public hearing. The public hearing came on the heels of reports of lengthy wait times and broken voting machines at polling sites across the city on Election Day, November 6, 2018. The purpose of the hearing was to gather testimony in order to improve access to voting, both in person and by absentee ballot. As a member of the Subcommittee, Assemblymember Taylor urged for the increased use of electronic devices to provide voters with information on polling locations and more polling site visits by the Board of Elections. In the upcoming legislative session, Assemblymember Taylor will work with other Subcommittee Members on voting operations, voter registration and participation.



MTA NOTICE: 168th Street 1-Train Station Closing

The 1 train station at 168th Street will close in January 2019 until early 2020. Please use the A & C trains at 168th Street or get off at the 157th Street 1 train station and use the M5 bus for alternate service.

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Celebrating the Holidays in the District

Assemblymember Taylor has been celebrating the holiday season throughout the district beginning with a menorah lighting ceremony on December 3, 2018, the second night of Hanukkah. The menorah lighting was held in front of the Harlem State Office Building on West 125th Street with Councilmember Mark Levine, Assemblymember Inez Dickens, Senator Brian Benjamin, and Congressman Adriano Espaillat. The Assemblymember also attended several tree lighting events around the district, including one at Convent Gardens, and another at Ilka Payan Park on 157th Street & Broadway, sponsored by CLOTH. The office of Assemblymember Al Taylor wishes you happy holidays and we look forward to seeing you in 2019!

Continuing Advocacy in Memory of Elijah Silvera

Elijah Silvera attended a daycare program in November 2017 where he was given a grilled cheese sandwich, despite having a documented severe dairy allergy, which resulted in his untimely passing at the tender age of three. In response to this tragedy, Assemblymember Taylor introduced the Elijah Bill (No. A10031A). The bill requires childcare service providers to have epinephrine auto injectors, commonly known as EpiPens, on site at all times and for staff to



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establish a procedure and treatment plan in the event of a serious allergic reaction. As of November 19, 2018, the bill is in committee in the New York State Senate. On November 17, 2018, at Jackie Robinson Park, the Assemblymember held a tree dedication ceremony to honor the life of Elijah Silvera with assistance from the Parks Department’s Manhattan Borough Commissioner William Castro and his Chief of Staff, Steve Simon. Both of Elijah’s parents, Thomas and Dina Silvera and family, were present, as was Assemblymember Taylor, Councilmember Perkins, and Senator Benjamin, who will sponsor the Elijah Bill in the Senate. The dedicated tree is located at 149th Street and Bradhurst Avenue.

Testimony before City Council in Response to HDFC Crisis

On October 31, 2018, Assemblymember Taylor, his counsel, Darlene Bruce, and Senator-elect Robert Jackson testified before the NYC Council’s Committee on Housing & Buildings, chaired by Councilmember Robert E. Cornegy Jr. The hearing gave shareholders and their advocates an opportunity to explain why certain Housing Development Fund Corporations (HDFCs) should not be placed into the Third Party Transfer Program (TPT). The NYC Housing Preservation & Development (HPD) created the TPT program to “save” HDFCs struggling with severe debt or that have ineffective Boards of Directors or property managers. Once the HDFC is transferred into the TPT program, a third party investor assumes ownership of the building and HDFC shareholders lose their equity status and become rent-stabilized tenants. The NYC Council has the authority to review and approve HPD’s list of HDFCs to be transferred out of the HDFC program and into the TPT program. As an advocate for HDFC shareholders, Assemblymember Taylor wrote letters to HPD and Councilmembers Levine and Perkins, requesting a moratorium on both the foreclosures and transfers of HDFCs into the TPT program.



Next HDFC Forum:
Assemblymember Taylor is hosting a “Legal Clinic” for HDFC shareholders, board of directors and renters to receive recommendations from attorneys.
WHEN: January 16, 2018
TIME: 6pm to 8pm
WHERE: The City College of New York
North Academic Center (NAC)
Ballroom, 1st Floor
160 Convent Avenue
New York, NY 10031 (at 138th Street)